

It is a time to celebrate the contributions that America's small businesses make to our economy. Small business is the engine that drives this nation, producing 75 percent of new jobs, accounting for almost 98 percent of all employers and 53 percent of the private work force. It is our small businesses that will continue to lead us to economic recovery. In particular, small tech businesses are on the front lines of the digital revolution. They have led the way in advances from broadband deployment to software development.

My State of Texas ranks second nationally in high tech workers, employing more than 411,000 with an annual payroll of about \$25 billion. Many of those employees are working for small businesses. And my new congressional district contains thousands of small, innovative high tech centered businesses.

One such company is Advent Networks in Austin. Advent was founded in 1999 and has already 87 employees. Advent Networks has created a new technology for cable operators. They are able to deliver Internet connections to small businesses over existing cable networks. This will allow cable operators the ability to offer fiber-optic speeds to small businesses.

With this new technology, affordable broadband access to small businesses will be delivered 1,000 times faster than with dial-up connections. Advent is just one of the thousands of small technology businesses around the country connecting rural America, developing next generation hardware and software, and keeping America in the forefront of technological advances.

#### RECOGNIZING GRAIG B. TURSON ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO THE U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY

**HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize my constituent, Graig B. Turson of Plymouth, Ohio, who recently accepted his appointment to the U.S. Air Force Academy.

Graig will soon graduate from Plymouth High School. During his high school career, he has maintained a 4.0 grade point average and is ranked first in his graduating class. He is an accomplished athlete, earning varsity letters in basketball, baseball and cross country. And, he has demonstrated his leadership ability, serving as captain of the basketball and baseball teams, and as President of the senior class.

Graig Turson can be very proud of his many accomplishments. He is a credit to his family, his school, and his community. By accepting his appointment, Graig is accepting a unique challenge.

The Academy is the pinnacle of leadership development for the United States Air Force. As a member of the Cadet Air Wing, he will face a most demanding academic curriculum and physical regimen. He will live, study and prepare in an environment where strong leadership thrives, individual achievement is expected, and personal integrity is demanded.

Mr. Speaker, General John W. Vessey, Jr. once wrote, "The Nation's ability to remain

free and at peace depends in no small measure on whether we will continue to inspire our youth to serve."

I am confident that Graig Turson has the character and ability to excel at the U.S. Air Force Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him well as he begins his very important service to our nation.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO PAT PASCOE

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to recognize the work of Pat Pascoe, a woman whose dedication and commitment to her fellow citizens deserves the attention of this body of Congress and this nation. After serving as a senator in the Colorado State Senate for three terms Pat is retiring from the Colorado General Assembly. It is with a great deal of respect that I take this opportunity to honor her accomplishments.

Born in Wisconsin, Pat came to Colorado in order to pursue her undergraduate degree, and has remained ever since. She began her career as a writer specializing in politics and education, and then went on to become a professor at Metropolitan State College and the University of Denver. Elected to the Senate in 1989, 1994, and 1998, Pat has dedicated countless hours to her fellow citizens in Colorado. As a State Senator, Pat has served on numerous committees, including her current posts as chair of the Public Policy and Planning Committee and Vice-Chair of the Education Committee, as well as Appropriations and Transportation. Pat has a passion for her work, taking on a variety of issues, including family, education and the environment.

Pat is a woman who recognizes the importance of humanitarian service, as well. She is a Member of the Consortium of Community Arts Councils, and a board member on the Colorado Endowment for Humanities, as well as Opera Colorado. She is a member of the Samaritan House, the Capital Hill Club, the Lions Club and many neighborhood associations. She is also a devoted wife and mother of three who enjoys music and singing.

Mr. Speaker, during her tenure in the Colorado General Assembly, Pat has compiled a long list of accomplishments, and they have not gone unnoticed. She has received numerous prestigious awards including the Donor Awareness Award, Children's Champion Award, and the Religious Freedom Award. Through her hard work and commitment she has also earned the respect and admiration of her colleagues. Pat is truly a valued member of our Colorado community, both as a state senator and as a citizen, and her hard work and dedication certainly deserve the attention of this body of Congress. Thank you, Pat, for all that you have done for your community, your state and your country.

#### RECOGNIZING FIVE OUTSTANDING EDUCATORS INDUCTED INTO NA- TIONAL TEACHERS HALL OF FAME

**HON. JERRY MORAN**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 7, 2002*

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize five outstanding educators who today were announced as inductees into the National Teachers Hall of Fame in Emporia, Kansas. This is the 11th year of inducting members into the Hall of Fame, whose mission is to honor exceptional teachers and promote excellence in teaching. I congratulate today's honorees.

These inductees are being honored for their devotion to our nation's children and for their many contributions to their communities. Students in inductee Dana K. Kelly's Southwest Elementary in Lakeland Florida, adopted 50 children school for the deaf, and send them monthly care packages from mittens to candies. Janice Gould, an art teacher at Lawrence Hall Youth Services in Chicago, Illinois, helped her students create a Permanent Children's Art Collection for the Illinois State Board of Education. This project demonstrates what special-needs children can create when given the proper environment to flourish. Fellow inductee Jane Bray Nelson, a physics teacher at University High School in Orlando, Florida, is distinguished not only by her many awards, but by her students' admiration.

I am especially proud to announce that two of this year's inductees hail from my home state of Kansas. E. May (Pat) Lindquist is a tutor and substitute teacher in Brookville. Ms. Lindquist has dedicated 54 years of her life to teaching, having first taught in a one room school house in 1931. Liza Zahn Crooks is a fourth grade teacher at Black Bob Elementary School in Olathe, Kansas. Ms. Crooks is known for developing innovative teaching tools, including the Good Bears of the World program in which students give a teddy bear to people going through difficult times, particularly children and senior citizens. I commend each of these individuals for their commitment to excellence in education.

Teachers are so important. When you ask people who has made a difference in their lives, the answer you are likely to hear is "my teacher." My own interest in the world outside my Kansas hometown was sparked by my teachers, who in grade school and high school taught me the love of books, biography, politics and history.

Every day, in schools all across America, teachers provide similar guidance to the next generation of students—teachers who, for inadequate pay, educate not only with facts and figures, but also instill a love for learning and a sense that there is a world out there beyond the city limits of our hometowns. No matter how lofty the goals, no matter how difficult the road, teachers have been there to show us that, yes, our dreams are possible, and that, yes, we can succeed.

So on National Teacher Day, I salute these five educators for their dedication to the youth of America. May you always find satisfaction in knowing that you have made a tremendous difference in the lives of your students. Thank you.